

# U BOAT SINKS STEAMER OFF FIRE ISLAND

"If It Happens In New York  
It's In The Evening World"

The Evening World.

WEATHER—Fair and warmer.

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## LASSIGNY HEIGHTS CAPTURED; ALLIES GAIN ON 25-MILE LINE

### TORPEDO SINKS STEAMER 60 MILES FROM NARROWS

Missile Dived Under Ship,  
Turned Around and Struck  
Fatal Blow.

U BOAT SUNK, IS REPORT.  
British Armed Merchantman,  
Arriving To-Day, Claims  
Victory in Fight Yesterday.

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 13.—A British armed merchantman on arriving to-day reports a fight with a submarine yesterday off the North Atlantic coast and claims to have sunk the U boat. Details of the battle were not made public.

Torpedoed without warning off Fire Island at 8:15 A. M. yesterday, the Norwegian steamship Sommerstad of 3,875 tons and under charter by the United States Government, was the closest to New York victim of German frightfulness. The stricken steamer was within sixty miles of the Narrows when the torpedo crashed into her port side and not far from the position where, on July 19, the United States Cruiser San Diego disappeared after striking a floating mine laid by a German submarine.

From Capt. George Hansen and the crew of thirty who were rescued by a naval patrol vessel after being ten hours afloat in the ship's boats was gleaned to-day the story of this, the most daring incursion of the enemy under-sea commanders into neighboring waters. They were landed to-day with no possessions other than the clothes they stood in, but rejoicing in their immunity from harm when the roar of the exploding torpedo marked the attack of the sea pirate yesterday.

The most remarkable feature of the attack upon the Sommerstad was the

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### TAX ON OCCUPATIONS \$10 A YEAR; PROFESSIONS TOO

War Industries, Farmers, Teachers  
and Ministers Exempted in  
Revenue Bill.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Special taxes of \$10 a year on occupation or profession, except the war industry trades, farmers, teachers and ministers, were written into the \$5,000,000,000 war revenue bill to-day by the House Ways and Means Committee. A similar tax was placed upon any business with receipts of \$2,000 a year or more, with a levy of \$25 a year on wholesale houses with receipts of \$200,000 or more.

Secretary McAdoo will appear before the Committee to-morrow to discuss the Treasury's plans for an excess profits tax based on rates in the present law, with an alternative war profits tax. Newspapers, press associations and periodicals were exempted from the proposed 10 per cent. tax on the amount paid for leased telegraph and telephone wires in the pending bill. It was amended so as to apply only to the stock brokers' lines.

In addition to the ordinary duty of 10 per cent. on all jewelry sold at wholesale, the committee put on a 10 per cent. tax on retail sales of jewelry composed wholly or partly of platinum.

FRESH BUILDING FOOD  
Father John's Medicine is pure—Advt.

### Crew of Torpedoed Norwegian S. S. Sommerstad, Picked Up by Patrol Boat After Rowing 10 Hours

Photographed by an Evening World Photographer.



### SPAIN AND GERMANY REPORTED NEAR BREAK

Unrest in Alfonso's Country Has  
Followed Sinking of Two Ships  
by U Boats.

LONDON, Aug. 13 (United Press).—That a break between Spain and Germany is likely was reported here to-day.

The recent sinking of two Spanish steamers by German submarines led to unrest in Madrid. This was followed by the internment of this crew of a U boat that sought refuge in a Spanish port.

In spite of this, the Spanish Cabinet, following a special meeting Sunday, issued a statement declaring that it was vital for Spain to maintain its neutrality.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Reports that Spain may be about to break with Germany were received here with interest to-day. Confidential reports here have indicated that Alfonso's country has been "on the fence" awaiting developments.

There is a strong Germanophile element in the country—particularly in the army—but recent reports show this element has been tempered by the influence of the manufacturing and thinking classes of Spain.

Spain is understood to have about 2,000,000 men for military service.

### FINNISH LANDTAG VOTES TO ESTABLISH MONARCHY

King Will Be Elected in September,  
Says Despatch From  
Stockholm.

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 13.—The Finnish Landtag has voted, 55 to 44, to establish a monarchy in Finland, a Helsinki despatch announced to-day. A king will be elected in September.

"War Angelus" for City Daily Suggested to the Mayor.

President C. E. Achorn of the Rotary Club of New York has addressed a letter to Mayor Hylan suggesting that the city observe a daily "war angelus" at 11 o'clock in the morning. The whole population ceasing work for one minute "expressing upon our people the solemnity in the morning of such devotion." It would also be a direct appeal, says Mr. Achorn, to each individual to aid in winning the war. Other Rotary Clubs have taken similar action.

Advice to those who want to sell their  
debt, to those who must sell—Go to  
John M. & Co., 61 E. 4th St.—Advt.

### MAN POWER BILL READY FOR SENATE; NO CHANGE IN AGES

Work or Fight Amendment  
Agreed On—Free Education  
for All Under 21 After War.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—The Senate Military Committee to-day voted to report favorably at once the Administration Man Power Bill extending draft ages from eighteen to twenty-five years, but with an amendment by Senator Reed of Missouri to have the Government provide two years' education free for all boys under twenty-one years old, to be given after the war.

Senator Chamberlain announced that the bill would be reported Thursday, and that if a quorum is present the unanimous consent agreement under which the Senate recessed until Aug. 24 will be set aside and consideration of the measure taken up Monday.

The Reed amendment affects both army and navy volunteers and those who have been drafted. Under its provisions, upon application, the youths would be given "an education at the expense of the Government at approved educational institutions, the period of such education being equivalent in point of time to the period he has served in the army or navy, but shall not exceed two years."

Another amendment accepted by the committee provides that orders granting deferred classification or exemption from military service for industrial reasons shall be revoked when the man to whom this classification has been given ceases to work at such occupation while physically able to do so.

Another amendment offered by Senator Reed would permit soldiers and sailors, regardless of age, who have either volunteered or been drafted, to receive commissions and be made eligible for admission to officers' schools.

The measure was also amended so as to provide that the wife of a soldier or sailor shall not be disqualified for any position under the Government because she is a married woman.

### GENERAL WHOM KAISER DECORATED DISGRACED FOR DEFEAT ON MARNE

Von Mudra, Who Was One of the  
Commanders at Verdun, and  
Gen. Liebrecht Retired.

PARIS, Aug. 13 (Havas).—Gen. von Mudra and Gen. Liebrecht, who commanded German armies in the offensive which began on July 15, have been placed on the retired list, according to Berlin newspapers which have been received here.

Gen. Mudra was one of the German commanders during the Verdun fighting in 1916. He was decorated by Emperor William for his services there. In the offensive of July 15 he was in command of the German armies attacking along the Champagne front between Prunay and Tannoy. His attack was met by Gen. Gouraud and was everywhere repulsed.

Gen. Liebrecht was not mentioned in the despatches telling of the fighting during July.

### BRITISH DESTROYER SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

Seven of Crew Lost Their Lives  
When Ship Was Torpedoed in  
Mediterranean.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—A British torpedo boat destroyer was sunk by an enemy submarine in the Mediterranean on Aug. 6. Seven of the destroyer's complement were lost, the Admiralty announced to-day.

HOT, BUT NOT FOR LONG.

Indicated to Last Through To-Morrow, With Showers Thursday.

Warmer weather is promised or threatened for later to-day and to-morrow, and cooling showers late on Thursday.

At 11 o'clock this morning the temperature was 81 degrees and the humidity 65 per cent. A six-mile breeze was stirring at that hour from the north-west. The humidity was 86 at 3 A. M. and has been decreasing, but not as rapidly as lovers of comfort would wish. The forecast is for a pleasant night. At 1 o'clock the wind had increased to eighteen miles an hour from the southwest and the mercury had risen to 88 degrees, while the humidity had declined to 59 per cent.

## PERONNE BRIDGE SMASHED; GERMAN SUPPLIES CUT OFF

Lassigny, Roye and Ribecourt All  
Likely to Be Flanked, and the  
Capture of Lassigny Especially  
Is Hourly Expected—More Than  
650 Guns Taken So Far.

Entire Line From Chaumes Southward to Oise Under Attack of French and British, and Germans Are Forced Out of Bend of River East of Ribecourt.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—Striking on the twenty-five-mile front in Picardy, from Chaumes southward to the Oise, French and British troops to-day scored important successes.

An Associated Press despatch says the French have gained control of the entire Massif of Lassigny. This gives command of the town of Lassigny and the valley of Divette, as well as the entire district to the north. The Germans made a stiff fight for one corner of the Massif, one of the highest humps on the hills, but the French finally drove them out.

In the new drive forward Lassigny, Roye and Ribecourt may all be flanked. The fall of Lassigny especially is expected hourly. This may force the Germans to retreat to the Somme canal line—an additional retirement of five to ten miles all along the front—according to information received here this afternoon.

### BRIDGE AT PERONNE SMASHED.

The Somme bridge at Peronne has been smashed, cutting off the enemy's supplies from that direction and hindering the retreat.

The number of guns captured by the Allies in the Picardy sector has now reached 650. Of these 400 were taken by the British in their drive along the northern sector of the front.

### ROYE PRESSED CLOSELY BY FRENCH.

The French launched their attack to-day on the southern part of the front and made progress from the Oise to near Roye. The British made gains north of Roye. Under French pressure the Germans are evacuating their trenches in the bend of the Oise River west of Bailly and the French are occupying them.

Bailly is a village situated on the east bank of the Oise, about a mile and three-quarters east of Ribecourt. It is near the southern end of Quercamp Forest, a wooded section which is of great strategic value in that part of the battlefield. The battle line crosses the Oise at about this point and swings southeastward to the Aisne in the neighborhood of Soissons.

In the region of Des Loges, south of Roye, the French this afternoon are consolidating their line. The French hold all the high ground here, overlooking the Germans in Roye from the south and commanding the great crisscross of roads leading out of that town.

The Associated Press says the evacuation of Roye may be expected within a day or two, for the town is now under a crossfire. The abandonment of Roye by the Germans would also make Chaumes difficult to hold. Thus recent history on the Marne is counted upon to repeat itself on this new front.

The village of L'Econville has been captured by the French and further ground has been gained by them north of the St. Claude Farm. L'Econville is about three and one-half miles southeast of

### CHANGES IN THE BATTLE LINE



Arrows point to positions under heaviest attacks in to-day's advance by the Allies.

## FRANCO-AMERICANS DRIVE GERMANS BACK OVER VESLE, AFTER RETIRING TO SOUTH BANK

Give Way Under the Early Pressure, but Immediately Counter Attack and Restore Their Former Positions.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—Heavy local fighting is reported in progress at Fismette, on the north bank of the Vesle, where the Franco-American forces are holding the line. The Allies here were attacked by the enemy and forced to retire to the south bank of the river.

An immediate counter-attack was launched, and according to the latest reports the old positions of the Allies on the north bank of the river have been restored.

Lassigny and virtually on the crest of the ridge overlooking the Oise.]

### PERONNE RUINS SET ON FIRE.

The enemy is reported destroying villages in his rear. The ruins of Peronne are reported to be burning. Fires have been observed by Allied airmen at various points.

The Germans have been hurriedly removing enormous quantities of war material from Peronne during the last forty-eight hours and enemy troops are crossing the Somme. Roads about Peronne are reported to be crowded with German transports attempting to get this material back to a safer spot.

Huge ammunition dumps at Resson-sur-Matz and Orvilliers were abandoned by the enemy in his flight and have been captured intact by the French.

British troops have gained additional ground north of Roye and on the north bank of the Somme, says the official statement from Field Marshal Haig to-day.

The Germans delivered a local attack near Fourquescourt, on the line between Roye and Chaumes. It was repulsed.

German attacks last night on the British positions in the Merris sector in Flanders were also repulsed.

Since the beginning of the Allied counter-offensive on July 18 the Allies have taken more than 70,000 prisoners and more than 1,000 guns, the Echo de Paris states to-day. In addition, it estimates, more than 10,000 machine guns have been captured from the enemy.